



Writers:
Are you
resolved to
send out
more work?

Check out the resources at *Poets & Writers* magazine at www.pw.org/grants. Their Grants and Awards Database lists over 130 upcoming writing contests, more than 50 of which have deadlines through March 2013 (this is updated regularly). Scroll to bottom of the page and click through all pages.

Their Literary Magazines Database lists over 800 journals that publish fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry: www.pw.org/literary_magazines.

Do you want to see more opportunities and resources like this? Subscribe to the Montana Arts Council Artist's e-Newsletter. These free bi-monthly newsletters for visual artists, writers, performing artists, and for arts educators, arts organizations, and public artists help keep everyone informed between State of the Arts issues. To sign up go to art.mt.gov/resources/resources_soasubscribe.asp. Scroll to mid-page and select.

Arts events receive Special Events grants

The Montana Department of Commerce recently awarded a total of \$200,000 in grants from the Montana Office of Tourism's Special Events Grant Program (SEGP) to 12 Montana communities. The funds will help support 17 different tourism-related events across the state, including several arts-related endeavors.

Montana communities of Big Sky, Chinook, Ekalaka, Glasgow, Great Falls, Hamilton, Hardin, Helena, Kalispell, Missoula, Polson and Virginia City will use the SEGP funds to assist in the marketing and promotion of tourism-related events.

"These 2013 special events grants demonstrate that there is something exciting on the horizon for tourists in every corner of Montana, in communities rural and urban," said Governor Steve Bullock. "I'm pleased that we can help get the word out and I encourage all Montanans to put some of these great events on their calendars."

The SEGP grants were approved following recommendations from Department of Commerce staff, Tourism Advisory Council members and representatives of Montana's

public and private businesses.

"The variety of special events supported exemplifies the amazing diversity of experiences available to the 11 million visitors who visit Montana each year," said Meg O'Leary, director of the Montana Department of Commerce. "Through events, visitors can fully engage with our communities. In turn, our small businesses have the opportunity to capture some of the \$3 billion these visitors spend annually."

Arts-related events include:

- Big Sky Classical Music Festival, sponsored by the Arts Council of Big Sky, \$7,500;
- The Russell: The Sale to Benefit the C.M. Russell Museum in Great Falls, \$30,000;
- The Ekalaka Shindig, sponsored by the Carter County Museum, \$8,325;
- The Glacier Jazz Stampede, Kalispell, sponsored by Flathead Valley Jazz Society, \$5,000;
- International Choral Festival in Missoula, \$10,885;
- Celtic Festival in Missoula, sponsored by the Montana Diva Foundation, \$7,800; and

• A Step Back in Time" Grand Ball in Virginia City, sponsored by the Virginia City Preservation Alliance, \$3,400.

Other recipients include the Sugarbeet Festival in Chinook, \$8,820; Montana Governor's Cup Walleye Tournament in Glasgow, \$10,000; Montana State Fair and Big Sky Pro Rodeo Roundup in Great Falls, \$10,618; Big Sky Classic, Hamilton, \$9,452; Will James Roundup, Hardin, \$10,000; Running Amok for Scholarship Bucks, Helena, \$5,000; Montana Dragon Boat Festival, Kalispell, \$29,300; Pond Hockey Border Showdown, Kalispell, \$31,000; Flathead Cherry Festival, Polson, \$6,900; and Madison Duathlon, Marathon and Triathlon, Virginia City, \$6,000.

SEGP, which was developed in 2002, offers grant funds for event marketing and promotion outside a 100-mile radius of the event. To date, the SEGP program has provided \$954,500 in grant funding to 106 events in numerous Montana communities.

The deadline for the next round of grant applications will be announced in June 2013. For information, call 406-841-2870.

STRATEGIC INVESTMENT GRANTS

IndepenDANCE: Creating and connecting

The Montana Arts Council Strategic Investment Grant has been awarded to IndepenDANCE Community Dance Project, a Bozeman group that represents passion for dance and offers performance opportunities to the community. The project holds a yearly show in which local dancers and photographers are not only able to perform, but also provide entertainment for an audience of dance lovers and supporters.

The mission of IndepenDANCE is to provide space and support for adult dancers and choreographers of all talents, backgrounds and abilities to connect, create and perform all forms of dance.

IndepenDANCE held its fourth annual



IndepenDANCE hosted "Revolutions" in September at the Ellen Theatre in Bozeman.

performance, "Revolutions," Sept. 27, at the historic Ellen Theatre in Bozeman. Each year, the IndepenDANCE performance has grown in breadth, depth and professional excellence, and this year's show was an exhilarating continuation of that trend.

With a growing number of interested choreographers and performers, a new venue and further community support, the possibilities continue to grow for the group.

IndepenDANCE Community Dance Project continues to thrive because people believe in the idea and continue to join in the creative process. The project is completely volunteer based and is also sustained by generous support from local business and individual sponsorship, as well as support from the Montana Arts Council.

A core committee of volunteers produces the performance and a series of auditions,

contacts and rehearsals are arranged to assist choreographers and dancers in finding one another and perfecting each piece prior to show time. This year's show consisted of 15 dance pieces, comprised of at least 10 choreographers and more than 40 dancers, as well as an entertaining opening performance by Antionette and Her Cupcakes, a group of Bozeman musicians.

IndepenDANCE began as a discussion in 2008 among dancers and choreographers searching for a venue to unite and perform. The project was initially for creative performance and collaborations among area dance enthusiasts who may not have studio connections. The desire for continued opportunity to create and connect through dance developed into an annual performance that encompasses a broad spectrum of dance, including modern, ballet, tap, world dance, aerial, hip-hop, ballroom, folk and more.

IndepenDANCE Community Dance Project welcomes new collaborators, not only in dance but in creative design, production, communication, management and music. To learn more about the project, visit www.facebook.com/IndepenDANCEProject.

SIG awards for October-January

The Montana Arts Council Strategic Investment Grants (SIG) provide up to \$1,000 in matching funds to professional artists, nonprofit 501(c)(3) arts organizations and pre-K-12 teachers in Montana for:

Training and Network Development: Grants for professional development and networking opportunities that help build art skills, healthy arts careers and businesses.

Market Expansion: Grants to help increase exposure and improve marketing or promotion, opportunities for exhibition or performance and sales.

Public Outreach Arts Activities: Grants for ongoing and one-time arts activities by arts organizations and artists that help firmly

anchor the arts in the greater community.

Challenges and Emergencies: Grants to provide assistance for artists or arts organizations experiencing catastrophic-level emergencies that threaten their ability to continue their work, and demand prompt and immediate attention.

Other Projects: Activities and ideas falling outside of these categories, yet worthy of state investment, might be eligible. Potential applicants must first discuss their proposal with the MAC grants director, Kristin Han Burgoyne (khan@mt.gov or 406-444-6449) to determine eligibility.

Following is a list of SIG grants awarded October 2012 through January 2013.

Organization/Individual	Project Title	Town	Awarded
Jerry Simchuk	Bighorn Sheep Carving Class	Kalispell	\$719
MT State Music Teachers Assoc	Montana State Music Teachers Assoc Annual Conference 2012	Columbia Falls	\$1,000
Elling House Arts & Humanities Center	Virginia City 150th Anniversary Celebration Poster	Virginia City	\$1,000
Charley Shipley	Greg Becham Workshop	Helena	\$1,000
April Marie Hale	Sitka Center for Art and Ecology Spring Residence	Bozeman	\$1,000
Kris Kramer	PMC Senior Instructor	Whitefish	\$667
William Parsons	The Helena Pierrot Project	Helena	\$1,000
Wendy Marquis	Art Classes	Belgrade	\$1,000
Mineral County Performing Arts	Town of Alberton Market Expansion	Superior	\$1,000
Lawrence Moquin	African Percussion Training	Missoula	\$430
Whitefish Review	Beneath The Surface	Whitefish	\$1,000
Rickie van Berkum	Marketing	Huson	\$1,000
Tobacco Valley Arts Council	Creative Storage Solutions	Eureka	\$1,000
Judy Fjell	Learning and the Brain Conference	Helena	\$703
Karla Allison-Westbrook	Life and Times of Sophie Morigeau Mural	Eureka	\$1,000
Tanya Call	Nutcracker on the Rocks Phase I	Helena	\$1,000